DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 476 347 SO 034 838

TITLE	Iraq after the War: The Challenge of Securing the Peace. Teaching with the News. Choices for the 21st Century.
INSTITUTION	Brown Univ., Providence, RI. Thomas J. Watson, Jr. Inst. for International Studies.
PUB DATE	2003-00-00
NOTE	17p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Thomas J. Watson, Jr. Institute for International Studies, Brown University, Box 1948, Providence, RI 02912. Tel: 401-863-2809; Web site: http://www.watsoninstitute.org/index2.cfm.
PUB TYPE	Guides - Classroom - Teacher (052)
EDRS PRICE	EDRS Price MF01 Plus Postage. PC Not Available from EDRS
DESCRIPTORS	Area Studies; Current Events; Foreign Countries; *Foreign Policy; *Political Science; Role Playing; Secondary Education; Social Studies; *War; *World Problems
IDENTIFIERS	Historical Background; *Iraq

ABSTRACT

As the post-war period in Iraq comes into focus, an important debate is taking place in the United States and abroad about how the transition period should be handled, who should be in charge, and what the goals should be. This lesson is designed to help teachers to engage their students in consideration of this international issue. The lesson is designed as an interactive lesson that places students in the role of decisionmakers as they explore divergent policy alternatives. Two resources are recommended as background to help students understand historical and current developments on the issue. The lesson includes four policy options and a one period lesson focused on a role play exploring the four policy options. Students should be given an opportunity to express their own considered judgments on what policy the United States should follow on this critical issue. (BT)

Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made
from the original document.

ED 476 347

Iraq after the War: The Challenge of Securing the Peace. Teaching with the News. Choices for the 21st Century.

Brown Univ., Providence, RI. Thomas J. Watson, Jr. Inst. for International Studies.

SO 034 838

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL IN MICROFICHE, AND IN ELECTRONIC MEDIA FOR ERIC COLLECTION SUBSCRIBERS ONLY, HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

S. Graseck

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

2A

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

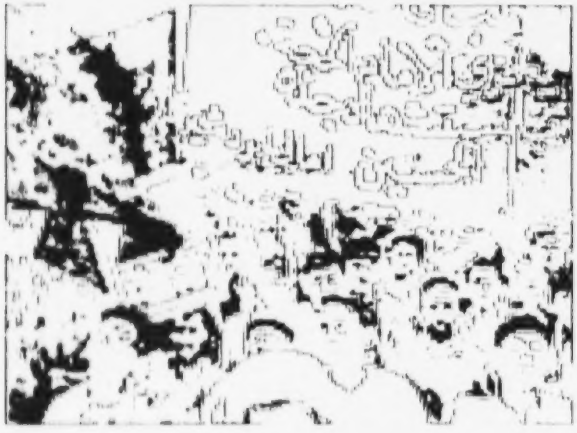
☑ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

Teaching with the News:

Iraq After War: The Challenge of Securing the Peace



Choices for the 21st Century Program

A Program of the Thomas J. Watson, Jr. Institute for International Studies

Brown University

2003 http://www.choices.edu/twtn.cfm?id=41

The CHOICES Program
Explore the Past... Shape the Future, History and Current Issues for the Classroom www.choices.edu

Teaching with the News

Iraq After War: The Challenge of Securing the Peace

As the post-war period in Iraq comes into focus, an important debate is taking place in the United States and abroad about how this period should be handled, who should be in charge, and what the goals should be. This lesson has been developed by the Choices for the 21st Century Education Program at Brown University's Watson Institute for International Studies. It is designed to help teachers to engage their students in consideration of this important international issue.

Iraq After War: The Challenge of Securing the Peace is designed as an interactive lesson that places students in the role of decision-makers as they explore divergent policy alternatives. Two resources are recommended as background to help students understand historical and current developments on the issue. Finally, students should be given an opportunity to express their own considered judgments on what policy the United States should follow on this critical issue.

This lesson includes:

- **Policy Options:** Four Policy Options have been framed to help students think about divergent policy alternatives, each driven by different underlying values, each with pros and cons, risks and tradeoffs. The Options provided have been developed with input from the research staff at the Watson Institute for International Studies, Brown University. The Policy Options can be printed for classroom use from the Choices web site.
- **Lesson Plan:** A one-period lesson plan is provided. It is focused on a role-play exploring the four Policy Options. Teachers are encouraged to integrate the suggested background resources into their courses as appropriate.

Suggested Background Resources

The BBC News Online at http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/in_depth/middle_east/ 2002/conflict_with_iraq/default.stmprovides interviews, news stories, analysis, and fact sheets on post-war Iraq.

The Online NewsHour with Jim Lehrer (PBS) at http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/in_depth/middle_east/2002/conflict_with_iraq/default.stm provides interviews and news stories on a range of issues related to post-war Iraq.

Let us hear from you:

If you join our mailing list, we will notify you via email when new Choices curriculum units or Teaching with the News mini-units are developed.

Post-War Iraq: The Challenge of Securing the Peace
Policy Options

As the post-war period in Iraq comes into focus, an important debate is taking place in the United States and abroad about how this period should be handled, who should be in charge, and what the goals should be. What follows is a framework of policy "Options" that frame the current debate. They are designed to help you think about a range of possible policy options and the ramifications of each.

The four options provided are not intended as a menu of choices. Rather, they are framed in stark terms to highlight very different policy approaches. Each option includes a set of criticisms against it. These are designed to help you think carefully about the trade-offs of each.

After you have had a chance to consider each of the options presented, we encourage you to articulate your own considered judgment on this issue. You may want to borrow heavily from one of the options presented, combine ideas from several, or take a new approach altogether. As you frame your "Option 5," think about the following questions:

- What U.S. interests are at stake in this issue?
- How is the rebuilding effort perceived by the various groups in Iraq? By the Arab world? By our western allies? By other parts of the world?
- How important should the welfare of the Iraqi population be in determining U.S. policy?
- What is the history of U.S. relations with Iraq? With the Arab world?
- What effect does U.S. policy toward Iraq have on the war on terrorism? On the Israeli-Palestinian conflict?
- What bearing does this issue have on our relations with other "rogue" states—with/without weapons of mass destruction?
- What steps should the United States take in the coming weeks and months?
- What should our long-term goals be?
- What values are important to you?
- What are the pros and cons of this option?

OPTION 1 – The U.S. should take advantage of the opportunity before us to rebuild Iraq in a way that protects our interests.

Iraq is free of Saddam Hussein's brutality and the world is free of the threat posed by his weapons of mass destruction. When the world community was unwilling to deal effectively with this threat, we took the lead and brought together a "coalition of the willing." But make no mistake, this was a US-led and almost completely US financed operation. We won the war. We have earned the right to rebuild Iraq in a way that reflects our national security interests. Today, disorder and uncertainty characterize post-war Iraq. In an effort to bring order to Iraq, we must exercise immediate control of all security, intelligence, and infrastructure. We must continue our all-out effort to find Iraq's weapons of mass destruction and destroy them. After determining who is a threat and who is not, we should engage Iraqis in the public service positions they formerly held in order to get the country up and running again. We should reconstitute Iraq's police and security forces. For the foreseeable future, these forces must be under U.S. control. We should provide immediate access to medical supplies and restore health care facilities in order to quickly address the public health needs of war-torn Iraq. We should determine quickly the country's infrastructure needs and award contracts for rebuilding Iraq to those whom we trust—predominantly American companies. Of paramount importance will be restoring Iraq's oil industry in order to pay for reconstruction in Iraq and ensure a steady supply of oil to world markets. Finally, we should install Iraqi leadership in Iraq as quickly as possible—leadership we can trust. Stability in this troubled region is a national security issue for the United States and we have no choice but to control the rebuilding of a stable Iraq.

Underlying Beliefs

- As the driving force in the war with Iraq, we have the right to determine the peace.
- Only strong U.S. leadership can create a stable Iraq that is not a threat to our interests.
- The United States has the right to take the initiative to eliminate tyrants who threaten us or the rest of the world.

Goals

- Protect U.S. economic and security interests in the region.

- Ensure that no weapons of mass destruction from Saddam Hussein's Iraq can get into the hands of our enemies—either other states or terrorists.
- Demonstrate to other rogue states that we do not intend to allow them to threaten U.S. interests.

U.S. Policies to Achieve these Goals

- Find and destroy Iraqi weapons of mass destruction.
- Assess infrastructure needs and award contracts to American companies to oversee the rebuilding effort.
- Encourage the United Nations to end sanctions against Iraq.
- Restart Iraq's oil industry in order to pay for reconstruction efforts and ensure a steady flow of Iraqi oil to world markets.
- Hunt down and prosecute criminals from the former Iraqi government.
- Identify leaders whom we can trust and then provide support to help them gain control of the country .

Arguments Against

- Insisting upon control of the rebuilding process in Iraq demonstrates American unilateralism and fans the flames of anti-Americanism in Iraq, in the region, and around the world.

- If the U.S. takes control of rebuilding efforts in Iraq we will be viewed as occupiers and vulnerable to claims of imperialism in the region.
- If we choose to control and profit from the rebuilding effort in Iraq, claims of American imperialism will have merit and we will have no credibility in any kind of peace initiative in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
- When we decided not to present a second resolution to the UN Security Council and announced in early March that we would go to war without UN support, we created a rift between ourselves and the UN. If we do not cooperate with the UN and the international community in the rebuilding effort, we will be further isolating ourselves.
- If we are not team players in the rebuilding of Iraq we will be straining relationships that are needed for the war on terrorism.
- A U.S.-led occupation of Iraq will increase anti-American sentiment in the region and make us even more vulnerable to retaliation in the form of terrorist attacks.

- Only the UN has the international legitimacy to lead a rebuilding effort that is not seen as imperialist.
- The UN has the experience and institutions necessary for rebuilding Iraq. We should be taking advantage of this.

OPTION 2 – The U.S. should rebuild Iraq and establish a democracy there as part of strategy for sustainable peace in the Middle East.

The war with Iraq is over and Saddam Hussein is no longer in power. The people of Iraq are now free of the tyranny of Saddam Hussein and the region and the world are free of the threat of his weapons of mass destruction. As the liberators of Iraq, it is now our responsibility to follow through with our commitment to help the Iraqi people build the institutions of democracy. Disorder and uncertainty characterize post-war Iraq. It is a country of competing factions and lacking any history of democracy. Religious factions are already vying for leadership. Building democracy in Iraq will not be easy, but our experiences in post-war Japan and Germany prove that democracies can be built. We must focus first on establishing order and getting the rebuilding process moving forward. After determining who is a threat and who is not, we should put as much control as we can in the hands of Iraqis and help them to get the public service sector up and running again. We must provide the necessary assistance to restore Iraq's oil industry as this will be a key source of ongoing funding for the reconstruction effort in Iraq. We must work with Iraq's emerging new leadership to find and dismantle Saddam Hussein's biological, chemical, and nuclear weapons programs. Finally, for democracy to be sustainable, we must assist the development of civil society over the long term and help different groups in Iraqi society to overcome ethnic and other differences. As soon as feasible, we should support free and fair elections. An American presence is likely to be needed for many years. The price will be high but the goal is worth the cost. A democratic and prosperous Iraq will be a model for the rest of the Middle East and ultimately a trusted partner of the United States.

Underlying Beliefs

- We fought the war with Iraq in order to free the Iraqi people of Saddam Hussein's brutality and establish democracy in a place where tyranny has reigned for decades. It is our responsibility to follow through with the process of democratization in Iraq.

- Only strong U.S. leadership can create an Iraq that is stable, prosperous, and democratic.
- With enough support, democracy can happen anywhere. A free and democratic Iraq in the middle of the Arab world is a treasure worth paying for.

Goals

- Demonstrate our commitment to democracy and a better life for the people of Iraq.
- Ensure that Saddam Hussein's biological, chemical, and nuclear weapons programs are found and dismantled.
- Establish a democracy in Iraq and use this as a foundation for the spread of democracy throughout the Middle East.
- Position the United States to be able to play a leadership role in settling the Israeli-Palestinian conflict even-handedly.

U.S. Policies to Achieve these Goals

- Reconstitute and train the Iraqi police force in the principles of democratic policing.
- Work with the emerging Iraqi government to locate and dismantle Saddam Hussein's biological, chemical, and nuclear weapons programs in accordance with previous UN resolutions.
- Encourage the United Nations to end sanctions against Iraq.
- Provide the resources to help Iraqis restart their oil industry as quickly as possible so that the funds from this can be used to rebuild their country.
- Redesign the curriculum for Iraqi schools so that students learn to be participants in a democracy.
- Provide assistance to and cooperate with those Iraqis committed to realizing democratic ideals, by supporting constitutional reform, rule of law initiatives, institution building and civil society.

Arguments Against

- Insisting on taking the leadership role in Iraq, even for an admirable cause like establishing democracy, will be proof to the world that the United States is intent on acting unilaterally and this will fan the flames of anti-Americanism.

- If the U.S. is going to decide what kind of government should be established in post-war Iraq, we will be viewed as occupiers and vulnerable to claims of imperialism in the region.
- Investing heavily in democracy building in Iraq may disrupt longstanding Iraqi authority structures and provoke violence against US troops.
- Rebuilding Iraq and establishing a democracy there will be a costly, long-term commitment with no promises of success. We can't afford it. We should be spending our resources on economic and security needs at home.
- Only the UN has the international legitimacy to lead a rebuilding effort that is not seen as imperialist.
- By going to war against Iraq without the support of the UN, we have created a rift between ourselves and our European allies. If we are not going to further isolate ourselves from the international community, we need to work with the UN to help Iraqis rebuild their society and establish the form of government that they choose.
- If we take the lead in post-war Iraq we will be straining relationships that are needed for the war on terrorism.
- Iraq is a complex country with many factions. Committing ourselves to building a democracy there will only put us in the middle of age-old struggles.
- In other countries where we have pledged support for democratic elections, parties whose goals and aims we do not share have sometimes won those elections. What do we do then?

OPTION 3 – The U.S. should throw its support behind the UN as the legitimate international body to oversee the rebuilding of Iraq.

Saddam Hussein is now deposed. Yet most Iraqis do not trust the motives of the United States and are fearful of a U.S. occupation force in Iraq. This is a fear that is shared by many others in the region and beyond. The United Nations must take the lead in Iraq. They and they alone will have the international legitimacy to carry out the difficult tasks of rebuilding Iraq. For rebuilding efforts to succeed, the U.S. must cooperate with the UN and put its economic and security resources behind this effort. U.S. troops should be replaced with UN peacekeepers. Until order can be restored, infrastructure rebuilt, and legitimate Iraqi leadership identified, the UN should be supported as the legitimate force to take over as the civil authority in Iraq. The UN

must also take charge of efforts to find and dismantle Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. We should support the return of UN weapons inspectors to lead this effort. Any effort led by the U.S. will not be trusted in the climate of post-war Iraq. Although the U.S. lacks legitimacy as a leader in the rebuilding effort, we are the only body with the economic and military strength to effectively support a UN-led effort of this magnitude. Only by serving in a supporting role to the UN can the United States escape the label of "imperialist power" and demonstrate we believe in cooperation on the world stage. Together the UN with the active support of the U.S. can demonstrate to skeptics in the Arab world that the interests of the Iraqi people will be heard and that the international community is committed to the creation of a society that reflects the will of the Iraqi people.

Underlying Beliefs

- International cooperation under the auspices of the UN is the only way to ensure international legitimacy for rebuilding Iraq after war.
- As the nation that led the way to war with Iraq, we have a responsibility to invest resources in the rebuilding effort.
- Security is increased through international cooperation. Insisting upon doing things our way will only alienate others and ultimately make us less secure.

Goals

- Avoid the charges and consequences of an American occupation of Iraq.
- Restore the governance of Iraq to the people of Iraq as soon as possible.
- Find and destroy Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.
- Strengthen regional and international cooperation on security issues.

U.S. Policies to Achieve these Goals

- Support the installation of UN civil authority in Iraq.
- Support efforts to bring UN weapons inspectors back into Iraq.
- Cooperate fully with the UN Security Council in making policy about the future of Iraq .
- Support the use of the UN oil for food program to help finance post-war programs in Iraq .

- Make the transition as quickly as possible from U.S. combat forces to a multinational peacekeeping force.
- Support UN efforts to assist the Iraqi people in drafting their new constitution.

Arguments Against

- Because the U.S. led the war against Iraq, it now has the right to rebuild the country in a way that enhances U.S. security.
- The UN is slow and ineffective and cannot act quickly enough to alleviate the suffering in Iraq. The U.S. is there and has the ability to act quickly.
- There were two reasons for the war in Iraq—to dismantle Saddam Hussein's weapons programs and to remove him from power and establish a democracy in Iraq. If the UN is in charge there are no guarantees that democracy will be built because, as an international body with membership from all kinds of nations, the UN has never expressed an interest in this.
- We do not need UN weapons inspectors getting in the way of our efforts to find and dismantle Saddam Hussein's weapons programs. The politics and bureaucracy of the UN will only slow the process down.
- If the UN is in charge and we are contributing, we could find ourselves footing most of the bill for policies and programs that run counter to our own interests.
- The UN's current programs in place in Iraq, such as oil for food, are ill-managed and have bred corruption. The UN cannot be trusted to function effectively.
- Other UN members (such as France and Russia) want the UN involved in the rebuilding of Iraq in order to ensure that they realize some of the economic gain from the effort. They were unwilling to take the risks associated with the war; why should they reap the benefits?
- It would be hypocritical for the UN to define the rebuilding process in Iraq having been so opposed to intervention in the first place.
- The U.S. was responsible for the destruction in Iraq, and now has the responsibility to clean it up. We should not expect other countries to contribute to this effort.
- If the UN comes in now it will be sending the message to others that they can engage in war and leave the UN to clean up afterwards.

OPTION 4 – The U.S. should step back from any leadership in the region and encourage others to help Iraq rebuild.

Saddam Hussein is no longer in power. We can stop worrying about weapons of mass destruction in his hands. Now it's time to encourage others in the international community to take over the leadership role in Iraq while we bring our troops home safely and refocus our attention on our faltering economy and our own security at home. Our policies in the Middle East have fanned hatred of the United States and increased our vulnerability to more terrorism. As the attacks of September 11, 2001 demonstrated, our high-profile foreign policy programs have bred resentment against us and created enemies who are intent on doing us harm. We must remember that we still face the threat of new terrorist attacks. Additionally, if we remain in post-war Iraq our troops will be vulnerable to reprisals from individual terrorists or from angry Iraqis. We could lose more troops in the peacekeeping phase than we did during the war. We must step back from any leadership role in Iraq—whether on our own or through the UN. Let others take responsibility for maintaining stability in this troubled region. The huge quantity of resources needed to rebuild Iraq could be better used here at home, particularly for homeland security and our faltering economy. We should bring our troops home and turn our attention to our own needs.

Underlying Beliefs

- We fought the war because our economic and security interests were threatened by Saddam Hussein and his weapons of mass destruction. Remaining in Iraq now, however, runs counter to our security interests.
- We have so many needs here at home that we cannot afford to expend our resources in other areas of the world.
- Meddling in the affairs of other nations and peoples inevitably creates resentment against us and makes us less secure as a nation.

Goals

- Reduce our visibility and military presence in the region to avoid becoming a target of further terrorism and violence.

- Bring our troops in Iraq home safely.
- Focus our attention and resources on the ailing U.S. economy.

U.S. Policies to Achieve these Goals

- Begin procedures to bring troops home from Iraq and surrounding countries.
- Reduce our dependence on Middle East oil by encouraging American oil companies to invest elsewhere and by promoting alternative sources of energy and energy conservation.
- Scale back our involvement in resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
- Redirect our resources to address economic and security needs here at home.

Arguments Against

- Leaving Iraq at this moment, with no civil authority in place, creates a power vacuum in which anti-American leadership is likely to take shape.

- Poverty and disorder, left unaddressed, will be a breeding ground for further terrorism and as the ones who led the war on Iraq the United States will be the focus of this.
- If we leave Iraq now, Syria and Iran—two nations that sponsor terrorism—are likely to step into the vacuum and create a regime that is hostile to the United States.
- We have risked American lives and gone to tremendous expense to rid the world of Saddam Hussein and make room for democracy to take root in Iraq. If we leave now the opportunity to establish democracy in the heart of the Middle East will be lost.
- We have an obligation to Iraq and to others in the region. The international community does not have the resources or desire to rebuild Iraq in the absence of U.S. involvement.
- We went to war with Iraq in order to get rid of Saddam Hussein and dismantle his chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons programs. Leaving now will prevent us from proving to the world that he had these programs and from maintaining control over their dismantling. We will never know.
- Oil is a security concern. If we abandon Iraq now and leave the reconstruction to others, our access to oil from this region will be at the mercy of the international community.

Copyright - Choices for the 21st Century Education Program, Watson Institute for International Studies, Brown University
All rights reserved. Permission is granted to photocopy for classroom use.

Post-War Iraq: The Challenge of Securing the Peace
Lesson Plan

The Policy Options presented in this material are not intended as a menu of choices. Rather, they are framed in stark terms to highlight very different policy approaches, the values that underlie them, and the critiques.

Break your class up into five groups. Assign four of the groups a Policy Option (one for each group). Their task will be to review their assigned Option, consider the values that underlie it and its pros and cons, and then develop a short presentation to give to the class. This presentation should make the best possible case for this Option. (If your class is large, you may also want to assign some students the role of representatives of other nations. They can be asked to present their views on the Options after all of them have been presented.)

Assign the remaining group the role of the President and his advisors or of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Their task will be to review each of the Options presented in the material and prepare challenging questions to ask of the advocates of each Option after their presentation.

Articulating Their Own Views

After all of the groups have presented their assigned Options and the President or Senate group has asked questions to clarify the Options, give all of the students an opportunity to come to terms with their own views on this issue. What should we do? Have them articulate their own considered judgments on the issue by framing their "Option 5." It may help them to use the questions provided with the Options as an organizing tool.

The coming weeks will most likely be a time of heightened public debate in the United States. Encourage your students to communicate their views to elected officials and policymakers.

Students can find contact information for the White House at http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/ and their U.S. Senators and their Representatives at http://thomas.loc.gov/.

U.S. Department of Education
Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI)
National Library of Education (NLE)
Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC)

NOTICE

Reproduction Basis

X	This document is covered by a signed "Reproduction Release (Blanket)" form (on file within the ERIC system), encompassing all or classes of documents from its source organization and, therefore, does not require a "Specific Document" Release form.
	This document is Federally-funded, or carries its own permission to reproduce, or is otherwise in the public domain and, therefore, may be reproduced by ERIC without a signed Reproduction Release form (either "Specific Document" or "Blanket").